Introduced by Assembly Member Gomez

February 21, 2014

An act to amend Section 68122 of the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2486, as introduced, Gomez. Public postsecondary education: exemption from payment of nonresident tuition for victims of certain crimes.

(1) Existing law exempts specified students from paying nonresident tuition at the California State University and the California Community Colleges. Existing law requires the governing board of each community college district to charge resident students a fee of \$46 per unit per semester and to waive that fee for specified students.

Existing law provides that students who are victims of trafficking, domestic violence, and other serious crimes who have been granted a specified status under federal law are exempt from paying nonresident tuition at the California State University and the California Community Colleges to the same extent as individuals who are admitted to the United States as refugees under a specified federal law. Existing law requests the University of California to adopt policies that are consistent with those provisions.

This bill would additionally provide that students who have attended a California high school for 3 or more years, and graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent of high school graduation, are eligible for the waiver of these fees.

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To the extent the bill would place additional requirements on community college districts to exempt students from nonresident tuition, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 68122 of the Education Code is amended 1 2 to read:
- 3 68122. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, students who are
- victims a student who is a victim of trafficking, domestic violence, and or other serious crimes who have has either been granted a
- 6 status under Section 1101(a)(15)(T)(i) or (ii), or Section
- 7 1101(a)(15)(U)(i) or (ii), of Title 8 of the United States Code, or
- 8 is a person who has attended a California high school for three
- or more years and graduated from a California high school or
- 10 attained the equivalent of high school graduation, shall be exempt
- from paying nonresident tuition at the California State University 11
- and the California Community Colleges to the same extent as 12
- 13 individuals who are an individual who is admitted to the United
- States as refugees a refugee under Section 1157 of Title 8 of the 14 15 United States Code.
- 16 (b) The University of California is requested to adopt policies 17 that are consistent with this section.
- SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that 18
- 19 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
- 20 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
- pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 21
- 22 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.